

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

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PA/PRESS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 132390

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: CY, PINT

SUBJECT:CYPRUS REACTION TO DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS ON
DENKTASH STATEMENT

1. CYPRUS AMBASSADOR DIMITRIOU TELEPHONED DEPARTMENT (EUR)
EVENING MAY 23 TO SAY THAT HE HAD RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS
"TO PROTEST" STATEMENTS MADE BY DEPARTMENT'S SPOKESMA
EARLIER IN DAY REGARDING DENKTASH STATEMENT. DIMITRIOU
SAID THAT GOC HAD BEEN "SHOCKED" AND "ASTONISHED" AT
TENOR OF SPOKESMAN'S REMARKS AND AT THE IMPRESSION THEY
GAVE THAT WE HAD MOVED FROM POSITION SUPPORTIVE OF UNSYG
TO ONE WHICH WE ARE PLAYING A LEADING AND ACTIVE ROLE.
GOC TOOK EXCEPTION TO SPOKESMAN'S DETAILED COMMENTS, AND
ESPECIALLY TO FACT THAT DEPARTMENT HAD DISTRIBUTED STATE-
MENT AFTER MEETING.

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2. DEPTOFF SAID WE WOULD OF COURSE TAKE NOTE OF GOC
REACTION. HOWEVER, WE DID BELIEVE,AS SPOKESMAN HAD SAID,
THAT DENKTASH STATEMENT WAS A POSITIVE AND ENCOURAGING
DEVELOPMENT WHICH SHOULD FACILITATE THE RESUMPTION OF
TALKS. MOREOVER, HAVING REPEATEDLY BEEN CALLED UPON IN
PUBLIC AND IN CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES TO EXPRESS OUR
VIEWS ON TURKISH PROPOSALS, IT WAS ONLY NATURAL

THAT WE SHOULD DO SO WHEN THERE APPEARED NEW AND POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS REGARDING THEM. FINALLY, WE HAD NOT "DISTRIBUTED" DENKTASH STATEMENT BUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH NORMAL PRESS PRACTICE HAD ONLY POINTED OUT THAT THE TEXT OF THE DENKTASH STATEMENT WAS AVAILABLE IF ANYONE SHOULD WANT IT. DIMITRIOU ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THERE WAS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DISTRIBUTING AND MAKING AVAILABLE. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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